



Hurricane Impacts on Natural Ecosystems

Win Everham

Florida Gulf Coast University

February 2, 2018



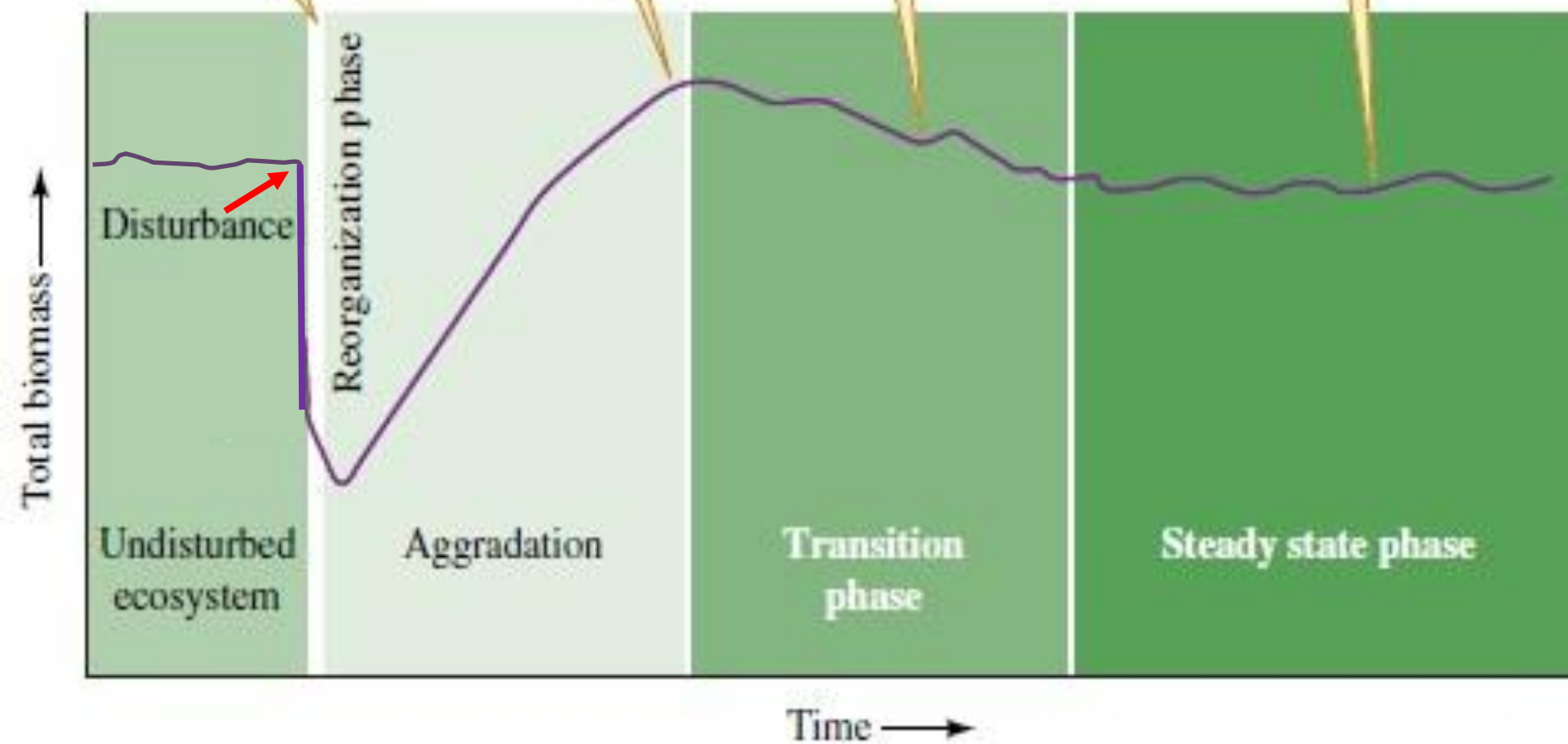
According to the biomass accumulation model, disturbing a forest ecosystem will induce a series of distinct recovery phases.

Following disturbance, the ecosystem will reorganize.

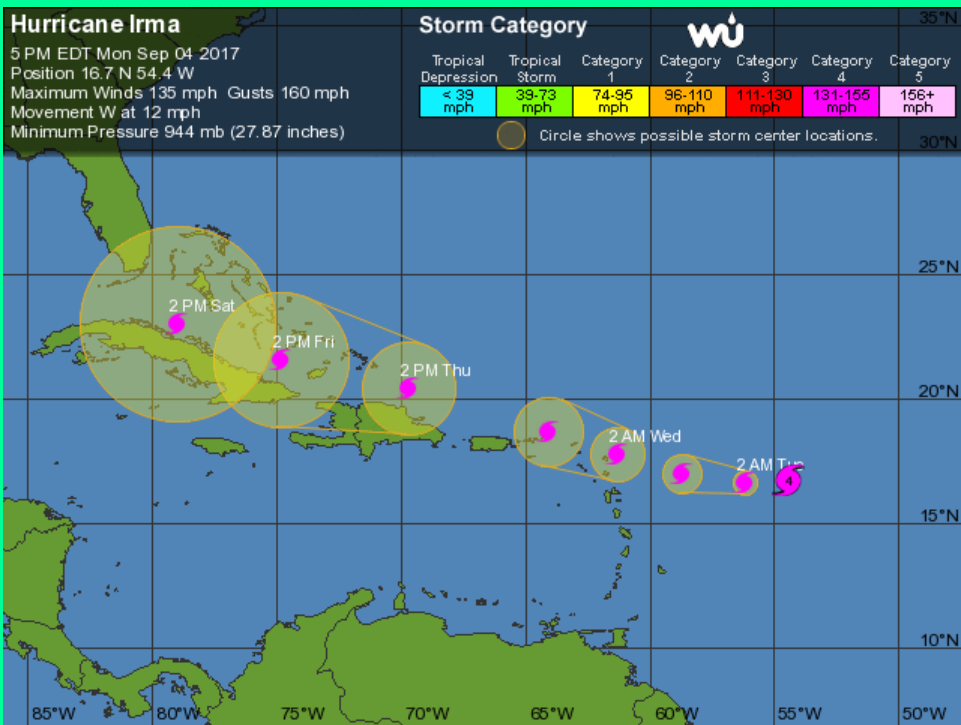
Next, biomass will increase.

Biomass will decline during transition...

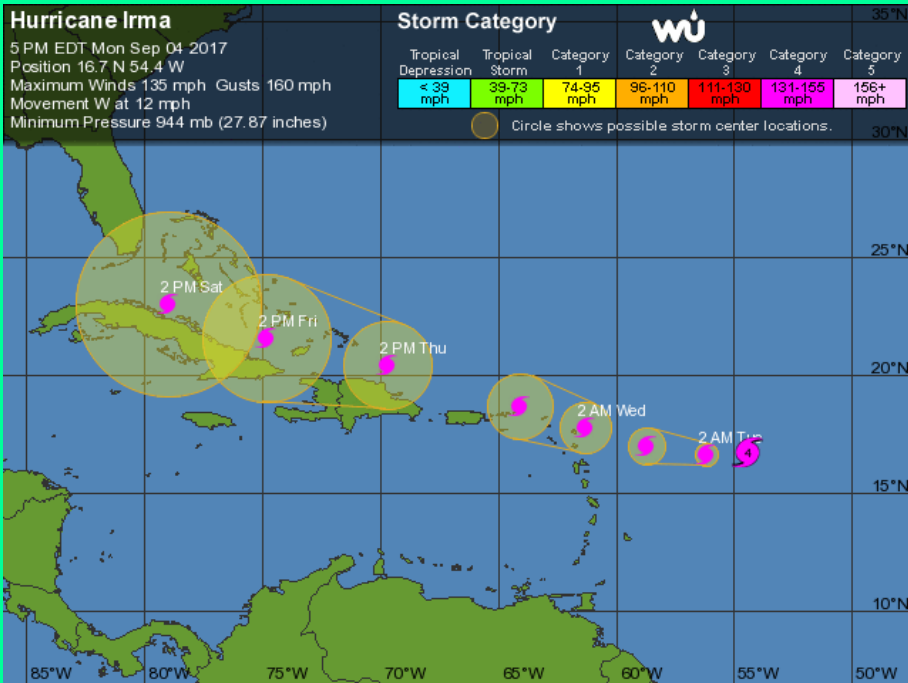
...to a steady state phase.



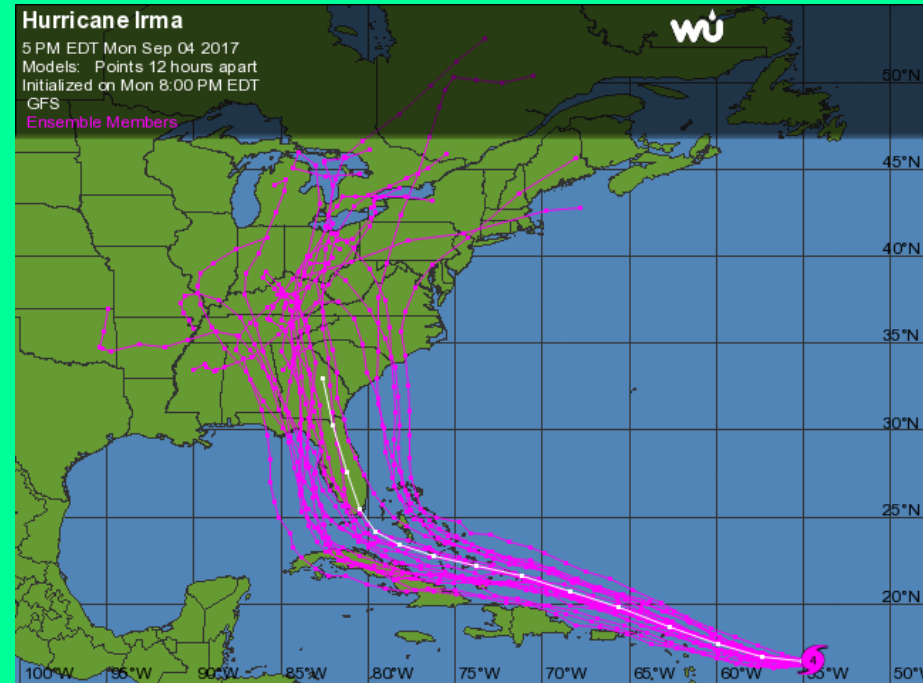
Five Day Projection – Monday September 4



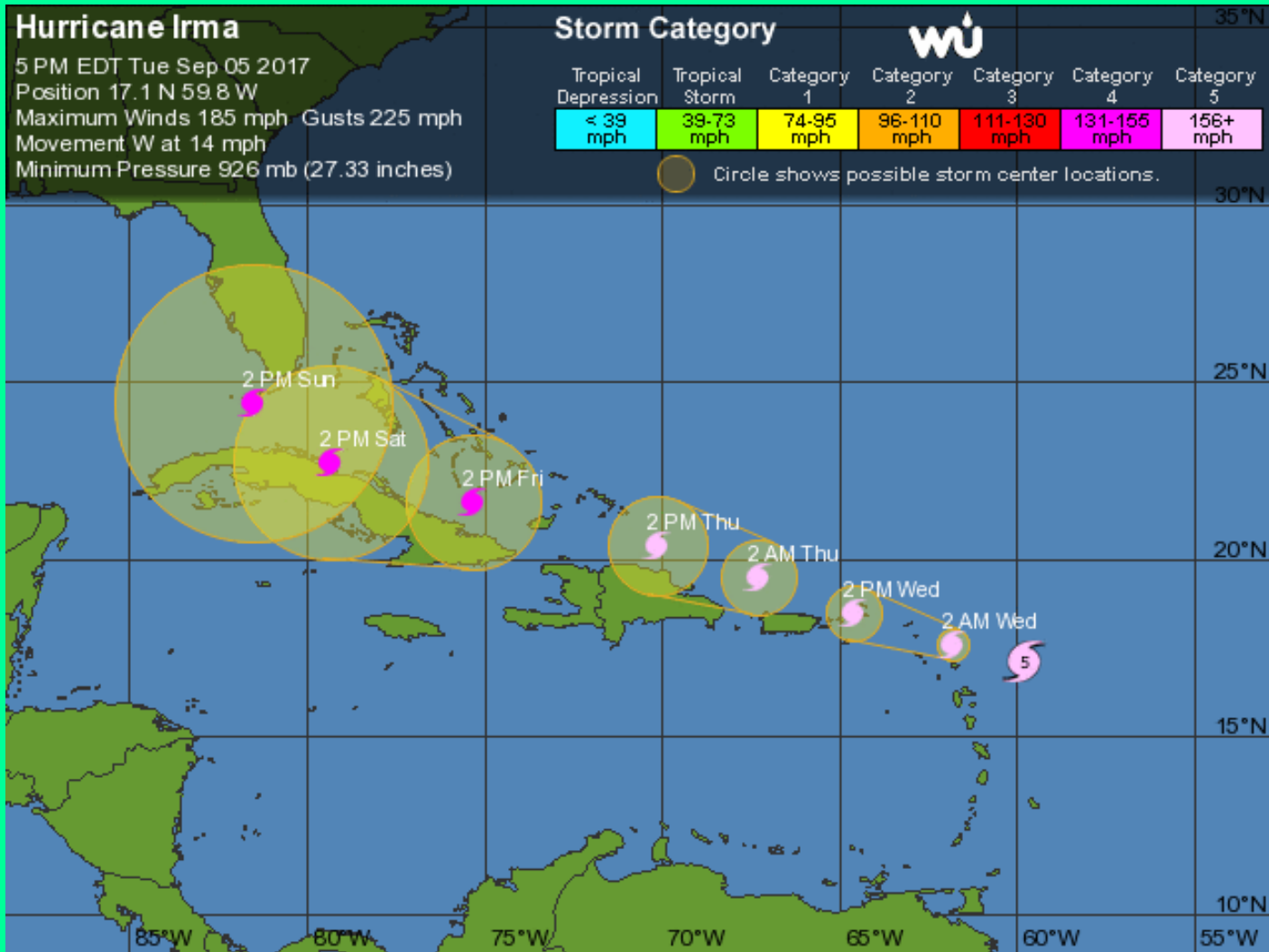
Five Day Projection – Monday September 4



Longer term model projection – Monday September 4



Tuesday
9/5



Hurricane Irma

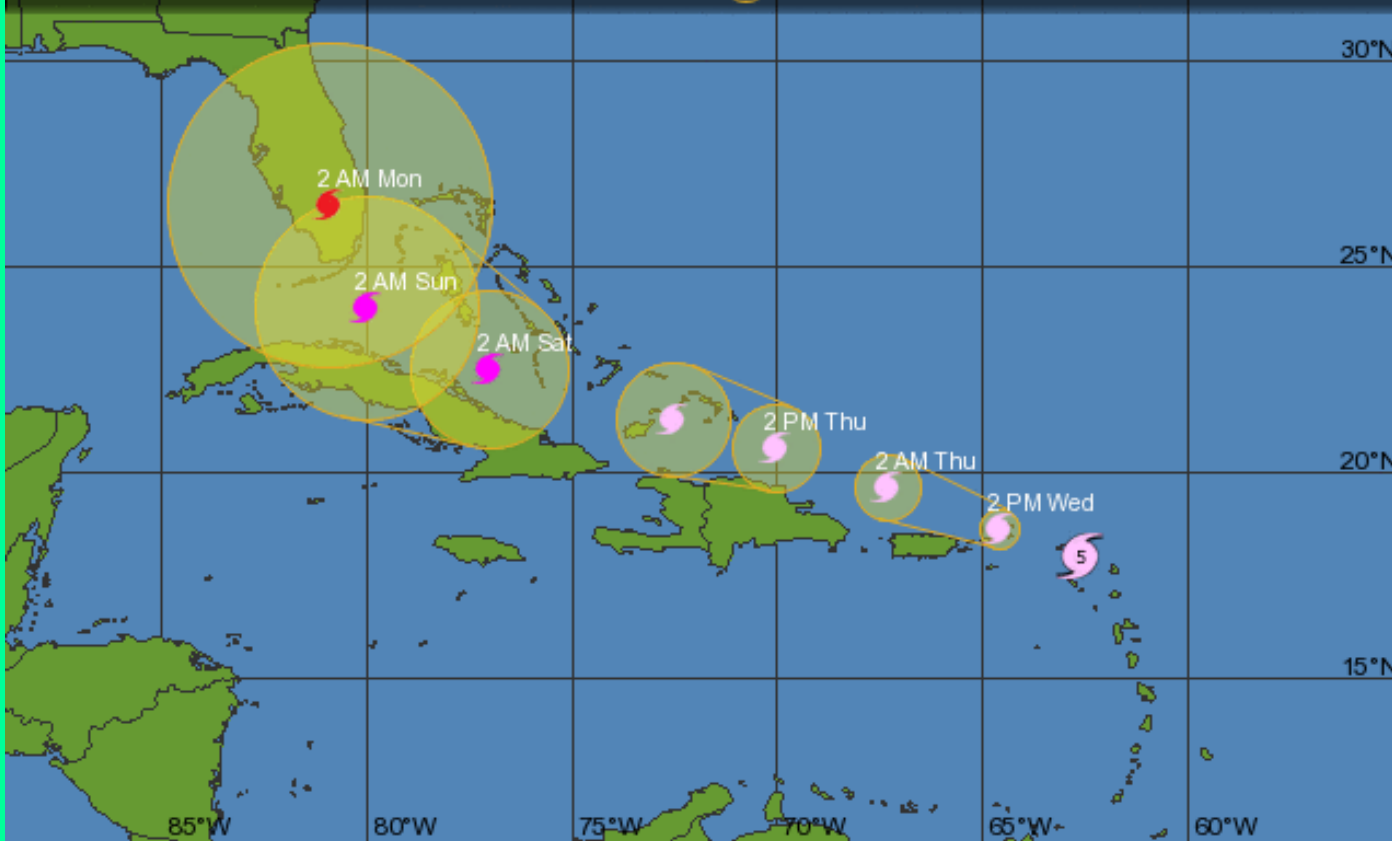
5 AM EDT Wed Sep 06 2017
Position 17.9 N 62.6 W
Maximum Winds 185 mph Gusts 225 mph
Movement WNW at 16 mph
Minimum Pressure 914 mb (26.98 inches)

Storm Category



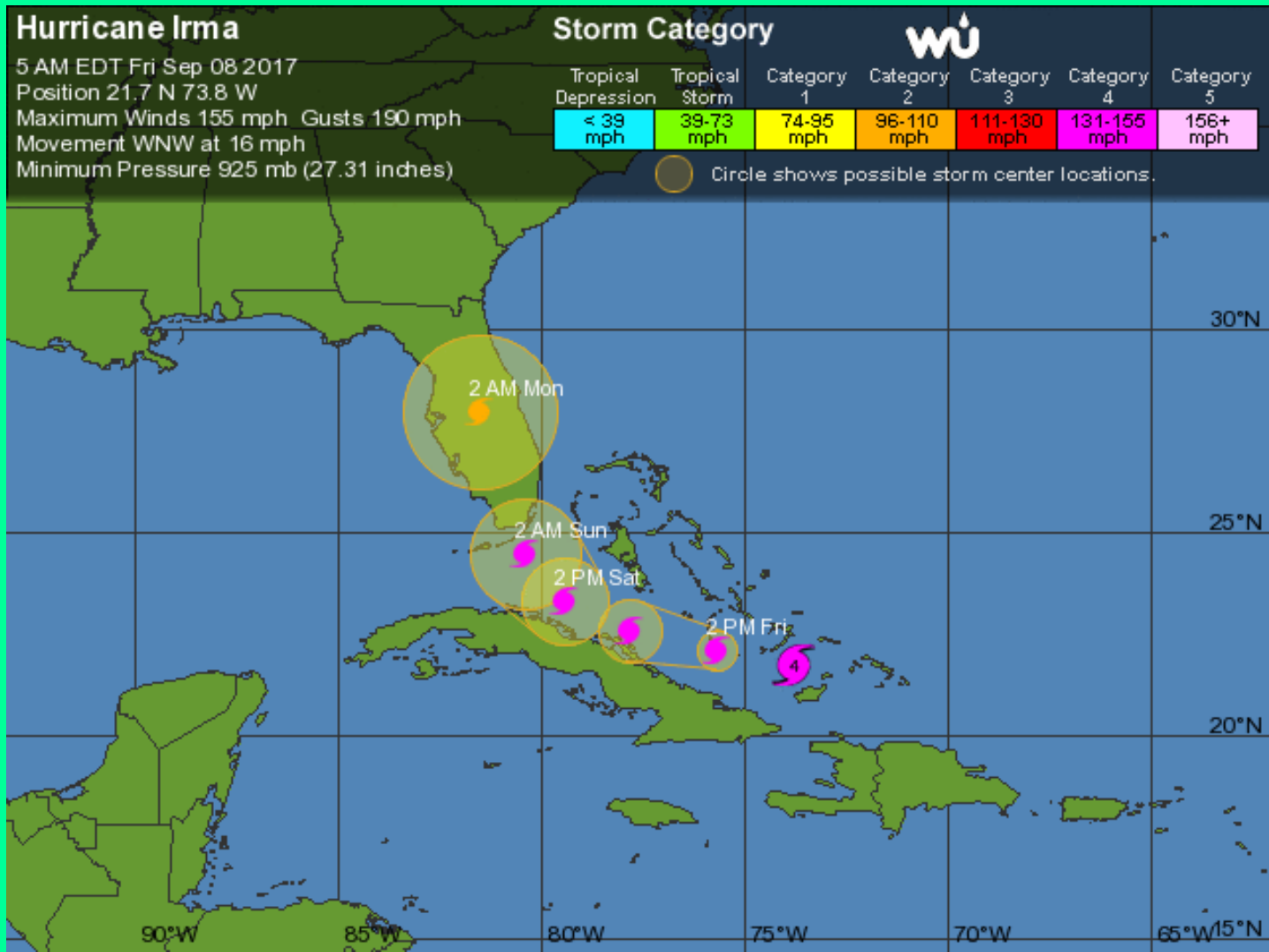
Tropical Depression	Tropical Storm	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5
< 39 mph	39-73 mph	74-95 mph	96-110 mph	111-130 mph	131-155 mph	156+ mph

Circle shows possible storm center locations.



Wednesday
9/6

Friday
9/8



Hurricane Irma

11 AM EDT Sat Sep 09 2017

Position:

22.8 N 79.8 W

Maximum Winds:

125 mph

Wind Gusts:

155 mph

Movement:

W at 9 mph

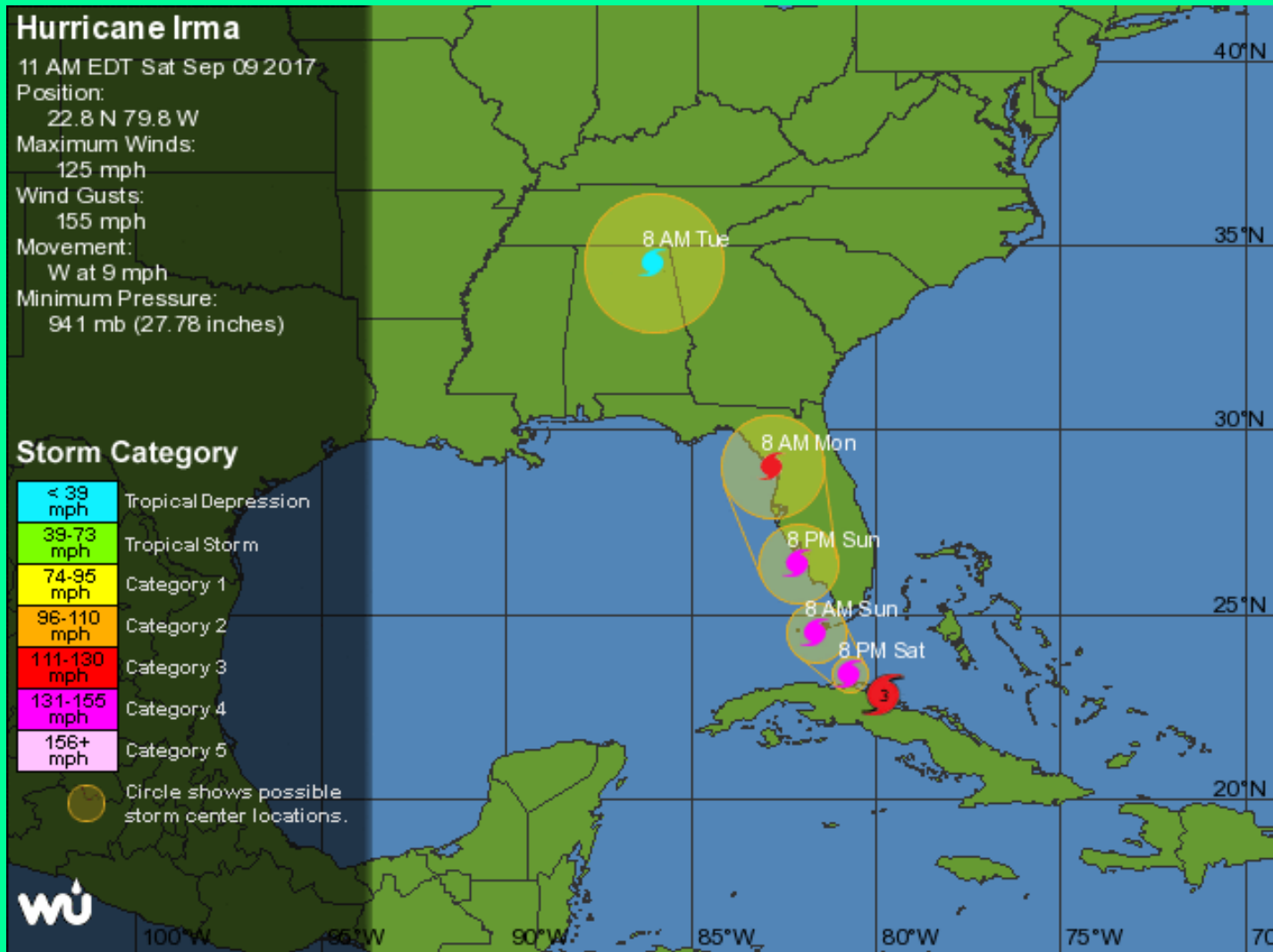
Minimum Pressure:

941 mb (27.78 inches)

Storm Category

< 39 mph	Tropical Depression
39-73 mph	Tropical Storm
74-95 mph	Category 1
96-110 mph	Category 2
111-130 mph	Category 3
131-155 mph	Category 4
156+ mph	Category 5

Circle shows possible storm center locations.



Saturday
9/9

Sunday
9/5
5 PM

Hurricane Irma

5 PM EDT Sun Sep 10 2017

Position:

26.2 N 81.8 W

Maximum Winds:

110 mph

Wind Gusts:

130 mph

Movement:


N at 13 mph

Minimum Pressure:

938 mb (27.69 inches)

Storm Category

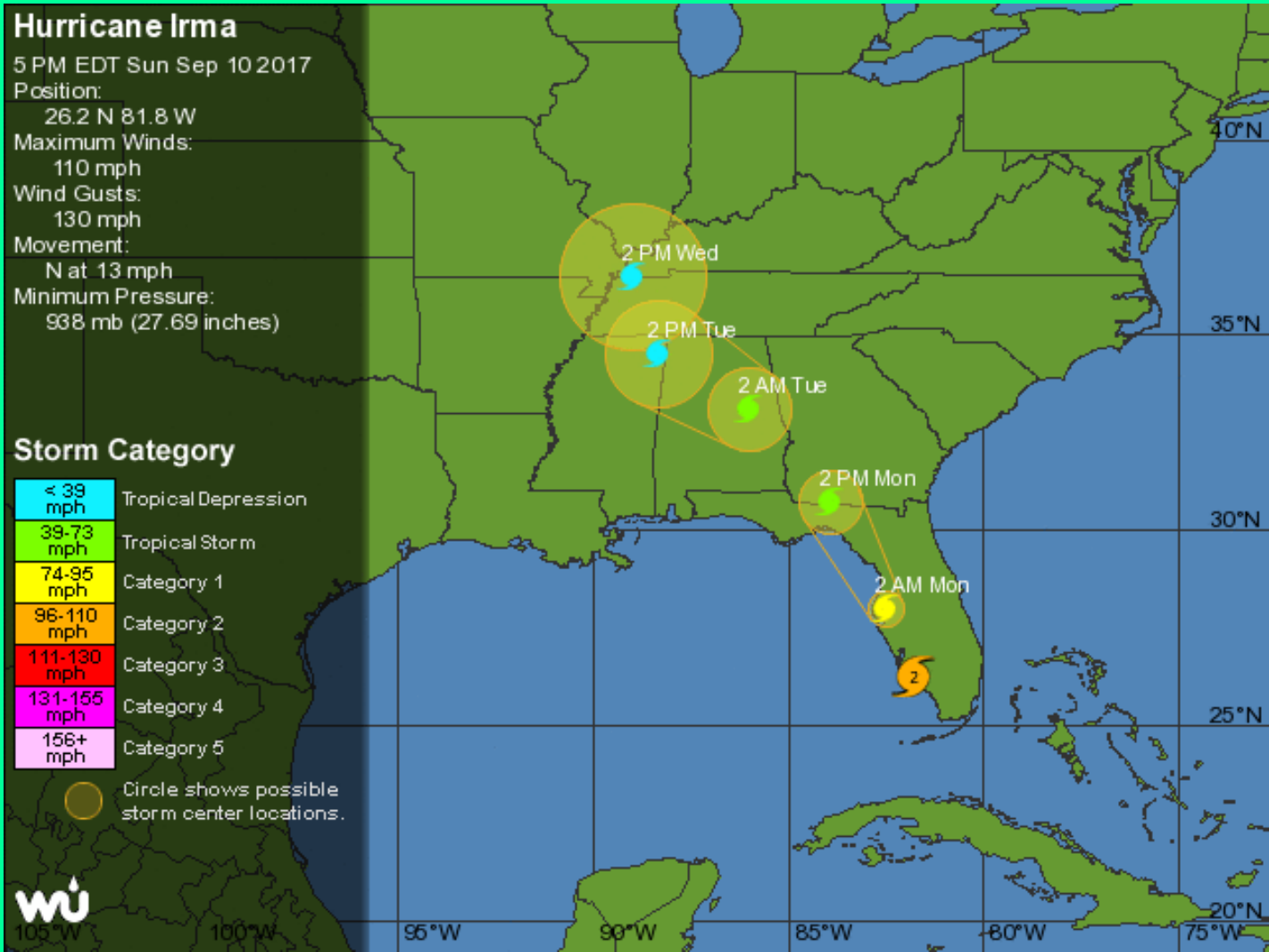
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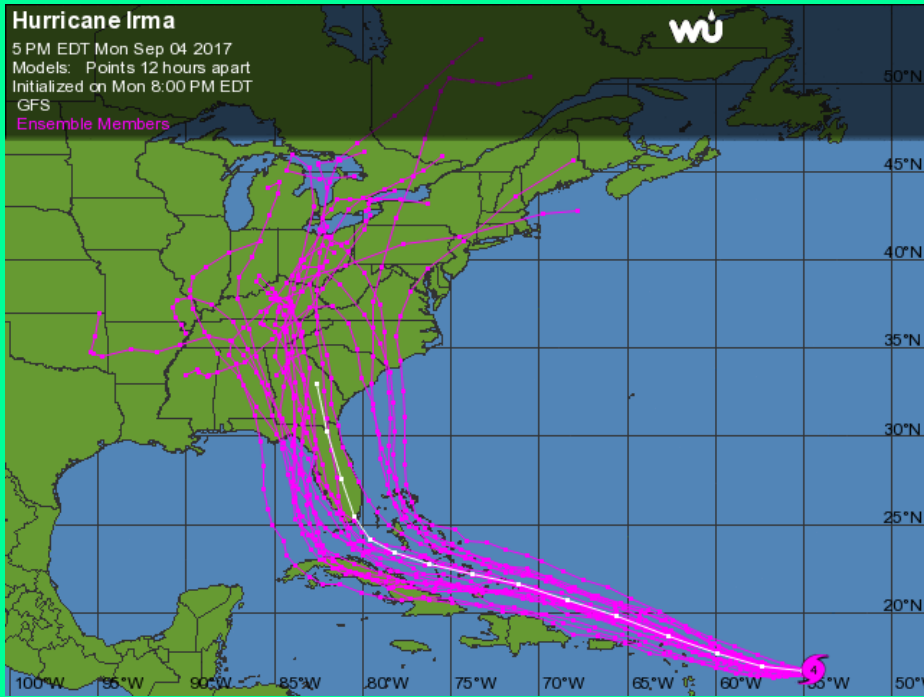


105°W 100°W 95°W 90°W 85°W 80°W 75°W

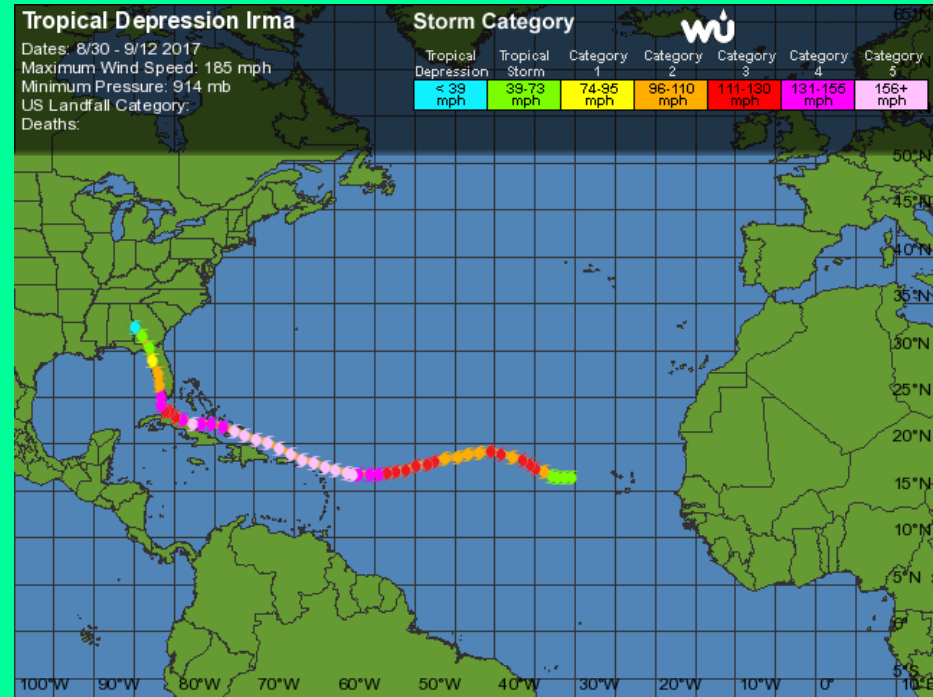
20°N 25°N 30°N 35°N 40°N

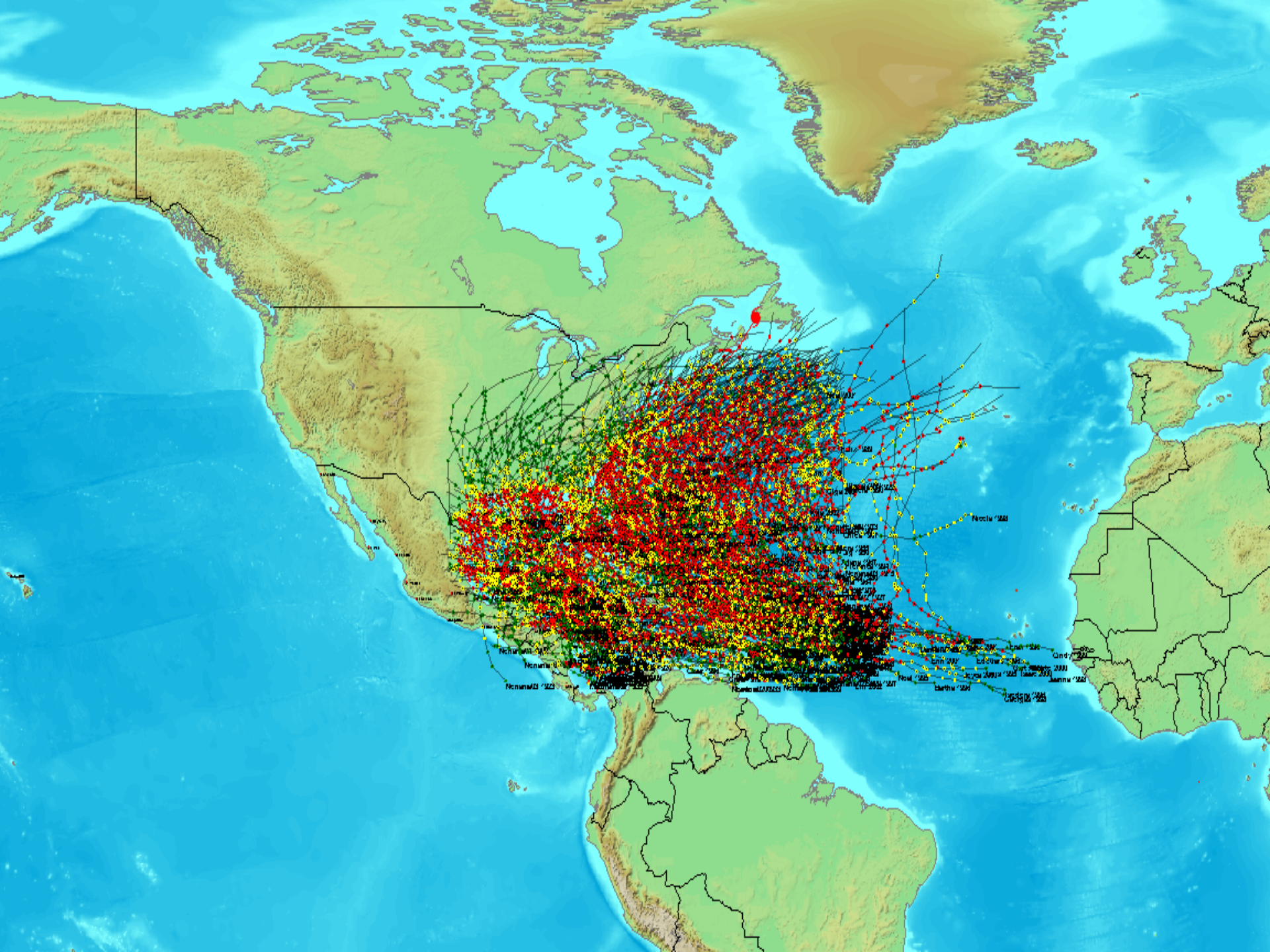


Longer term model projection – Monday September 4



Final Track Data – downloaded Monday 9/18





NOAA Summary

- “It is premature to conclude that human activities—and particularly greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming—have already had a *detectable* impact on Atlantic hurricane or global tropical cyclone activity.”
- “Anthropogenic warming by the end of the 21st century will likely cause tropical cyclones globally to be more intense on average (by 2 to 11% according to model projections for an IPCC mid-range scenario).”
- “Tropical cyclone rainfall rates will likely increase in the future due to anthropogenic warming and accompanying increase in atmospheric moisture content. Models project an increase on the order of 10-15% for rainfall rates averaged within about 100 km of the storm center by the end of the 21st century.”
- <https://www.gfdl.noaa.gov/global-warming-and-hurricanes/>

Pine upland – FGCU Campus



December 2003

March 2004

June 2004

(5 days after burn)

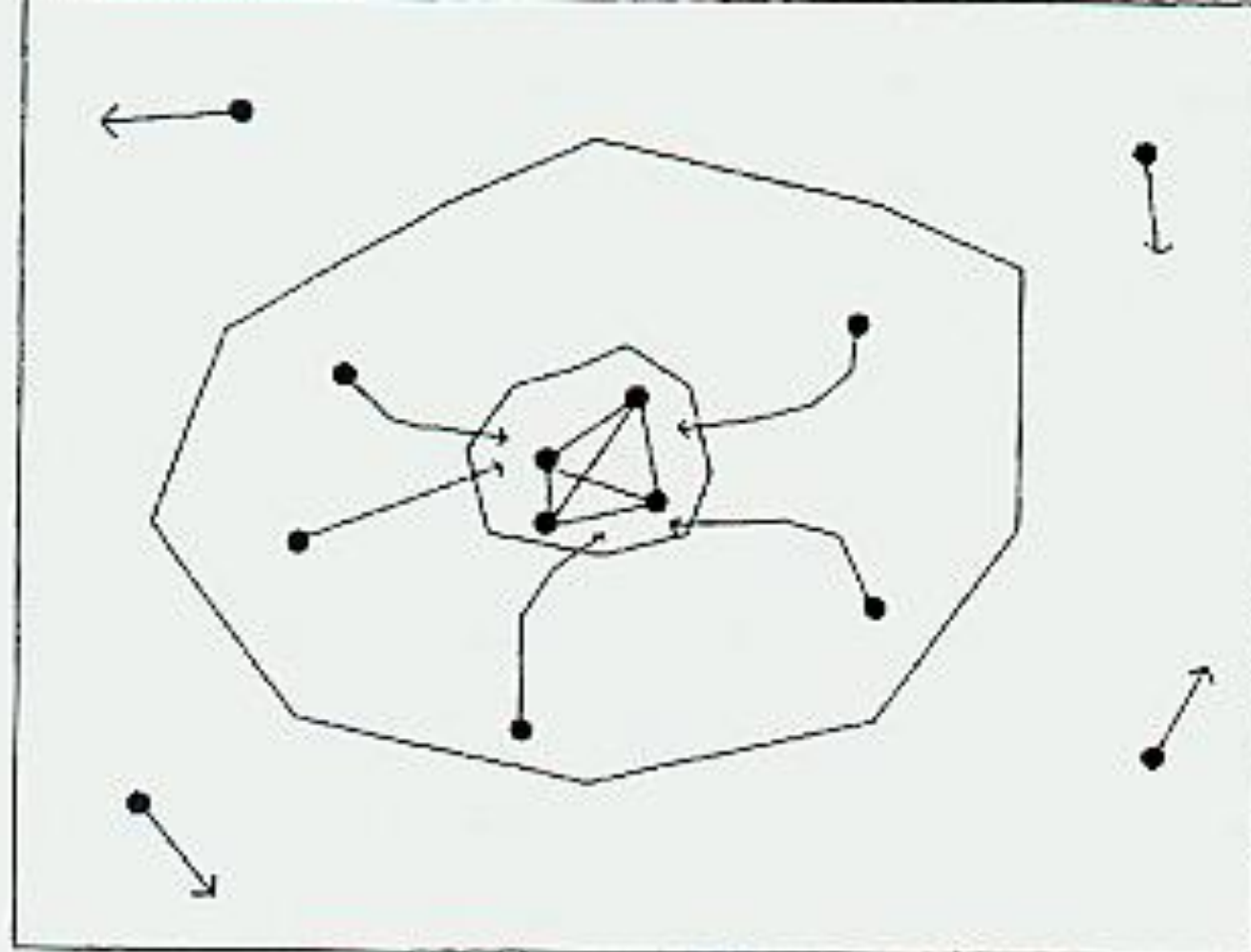
July 2004

(six weeks after burn)

October 2004

(19 weeks after burn)

Ecosystem State Variable



Ecosystem State Variable

Figure 2 - Margalef's mapping of stability. Axes are state variable values. Area A is the region within which the variable values vary naturally. When stress results in displacements within area B, the system can return to the original state. With displacements outside of B the system seeks new stable points. (after Margalef 1969)

Forest Damage and Recovery from Catastrophic Wind

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AND

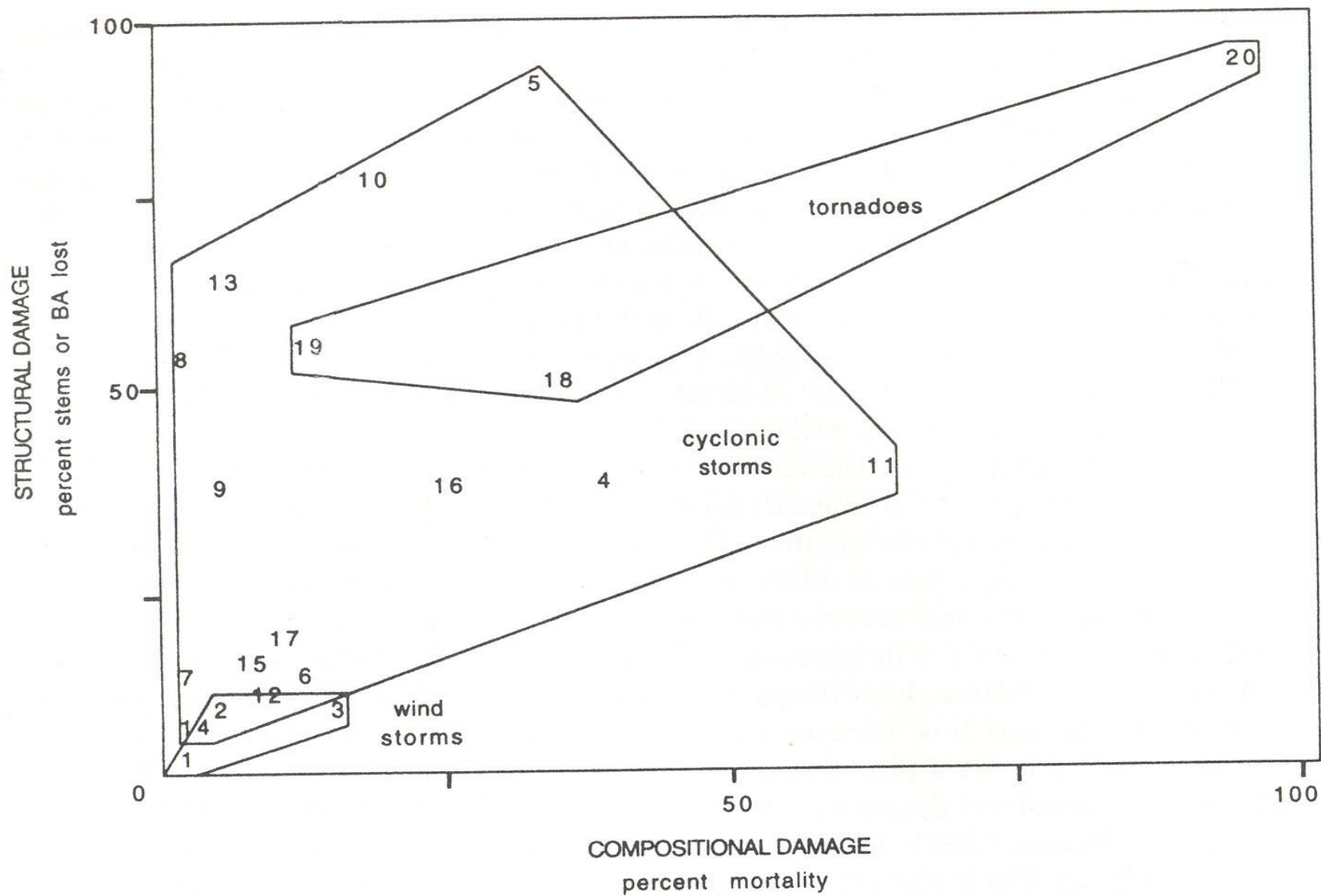
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- mortality will be low, but will be delayed
- species will be impacted differently
- the impacts will be heterogeneous
- recovery will be rapid
- exotic species will be more impacted than natives



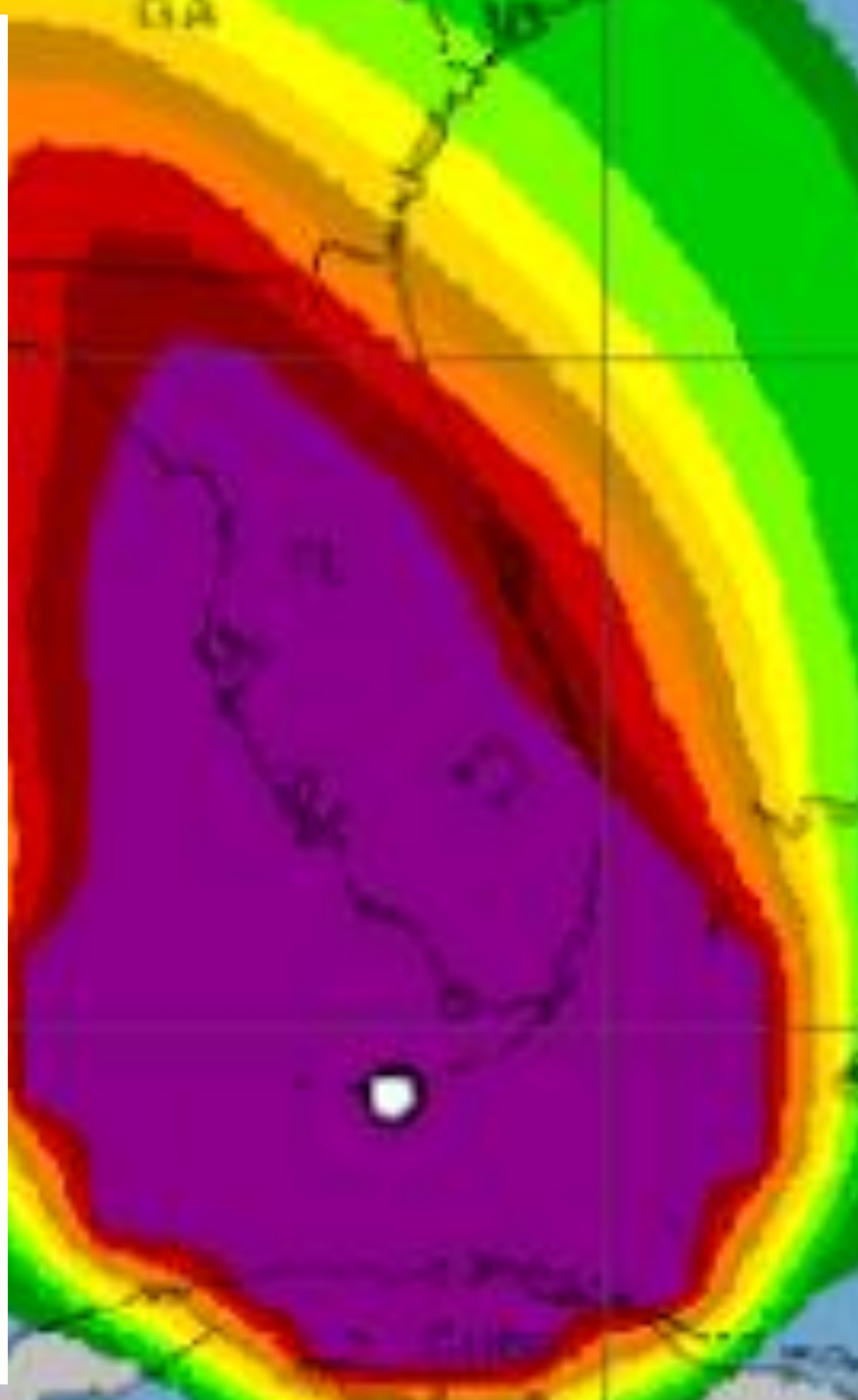
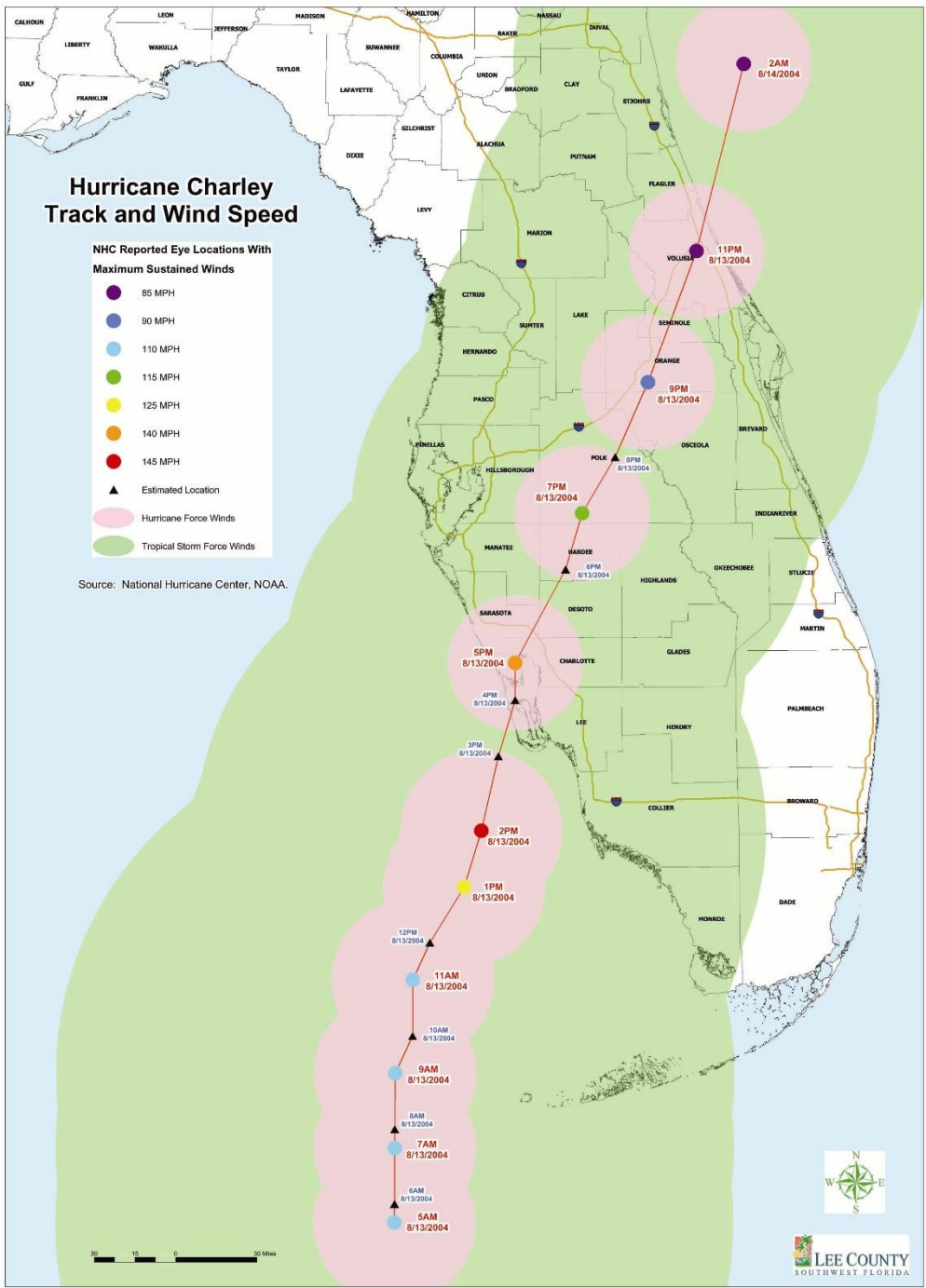
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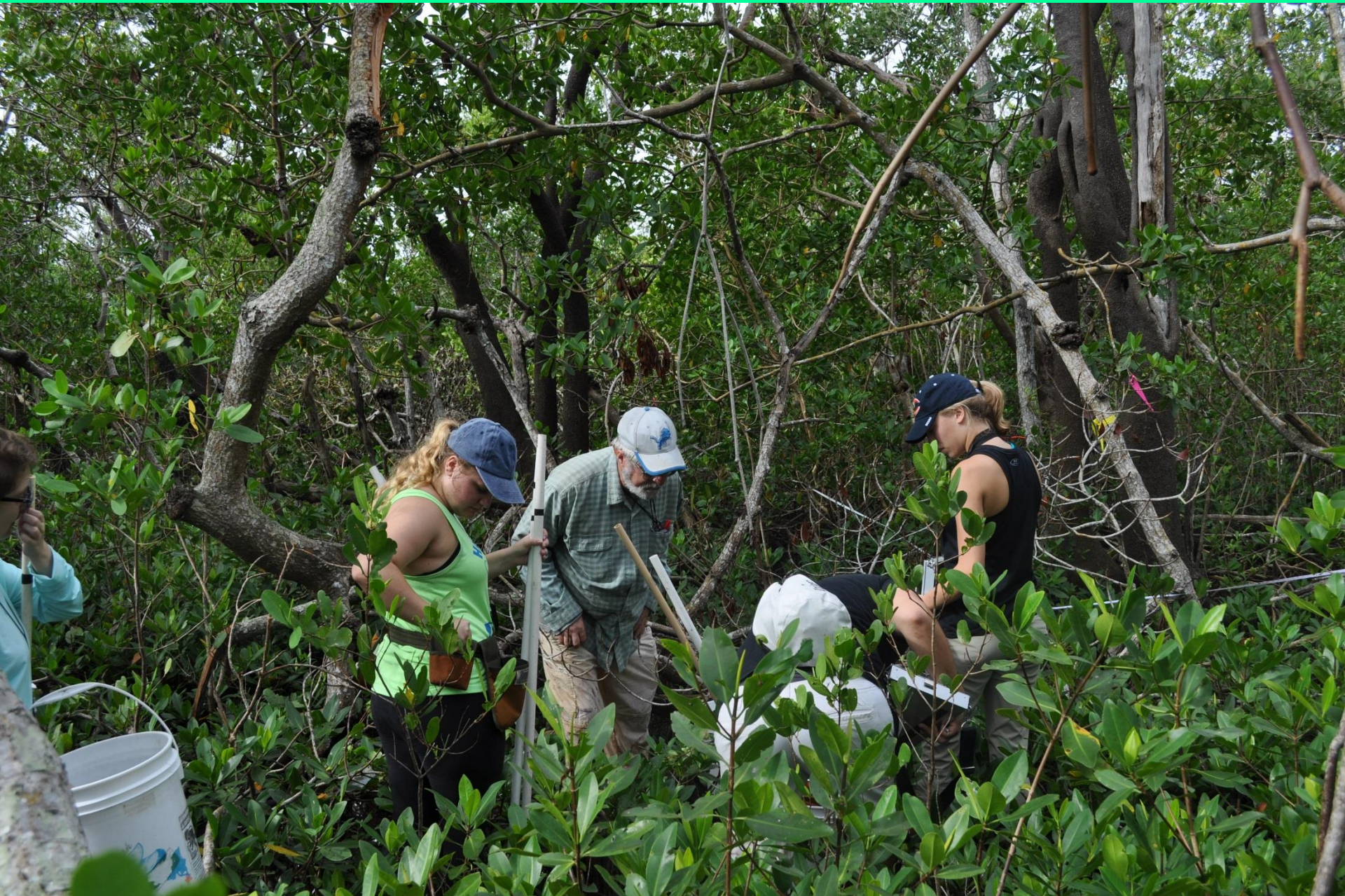


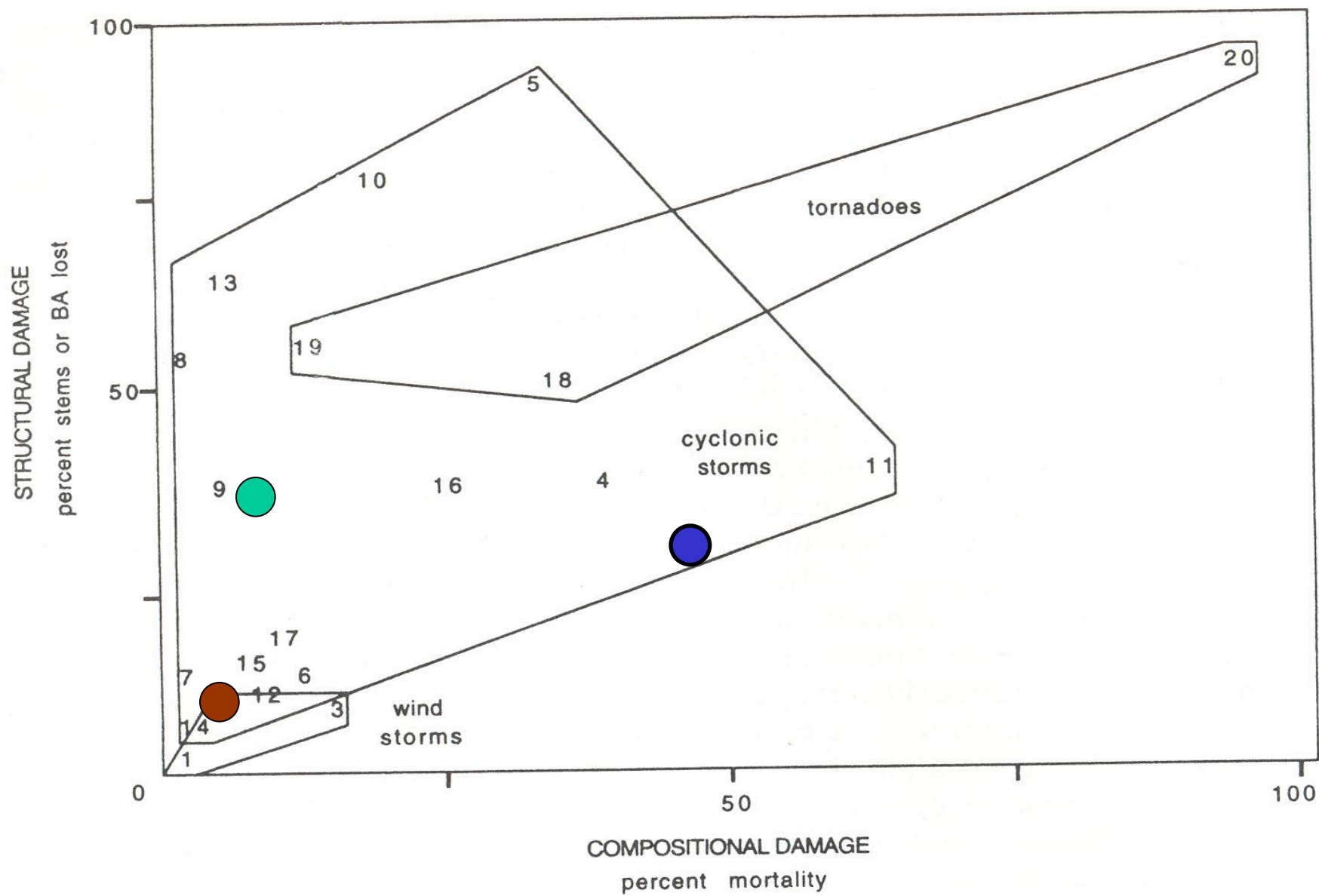


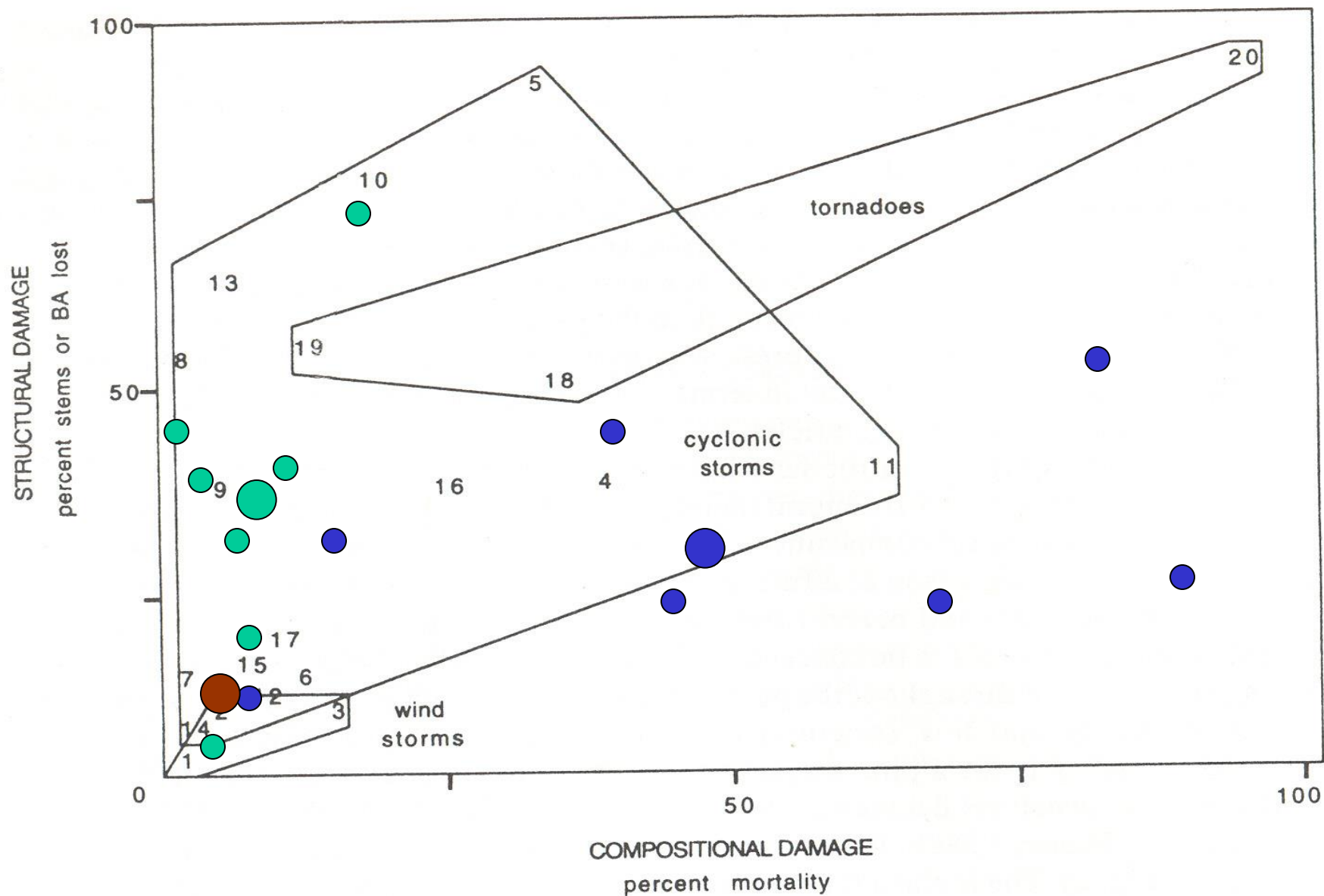


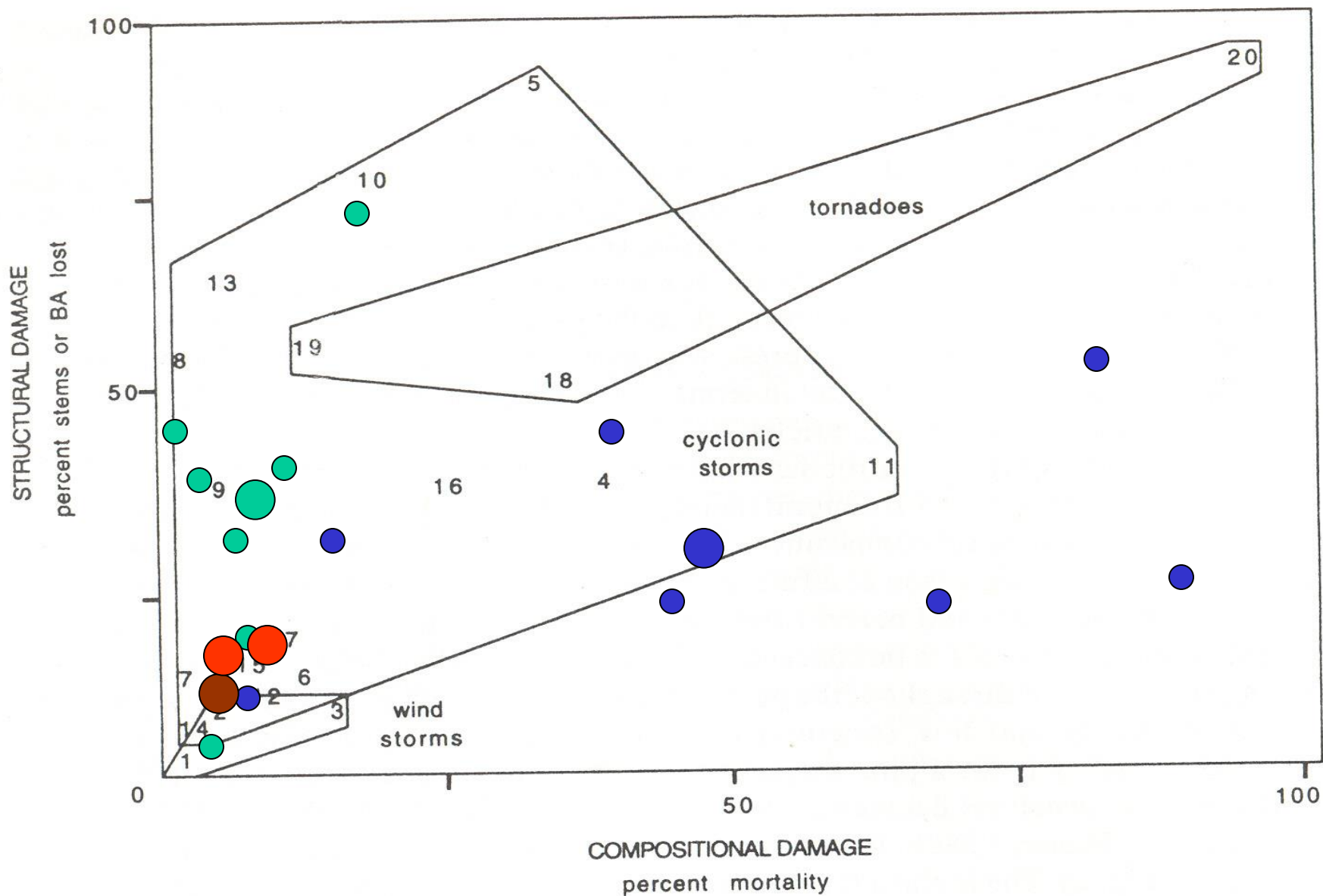












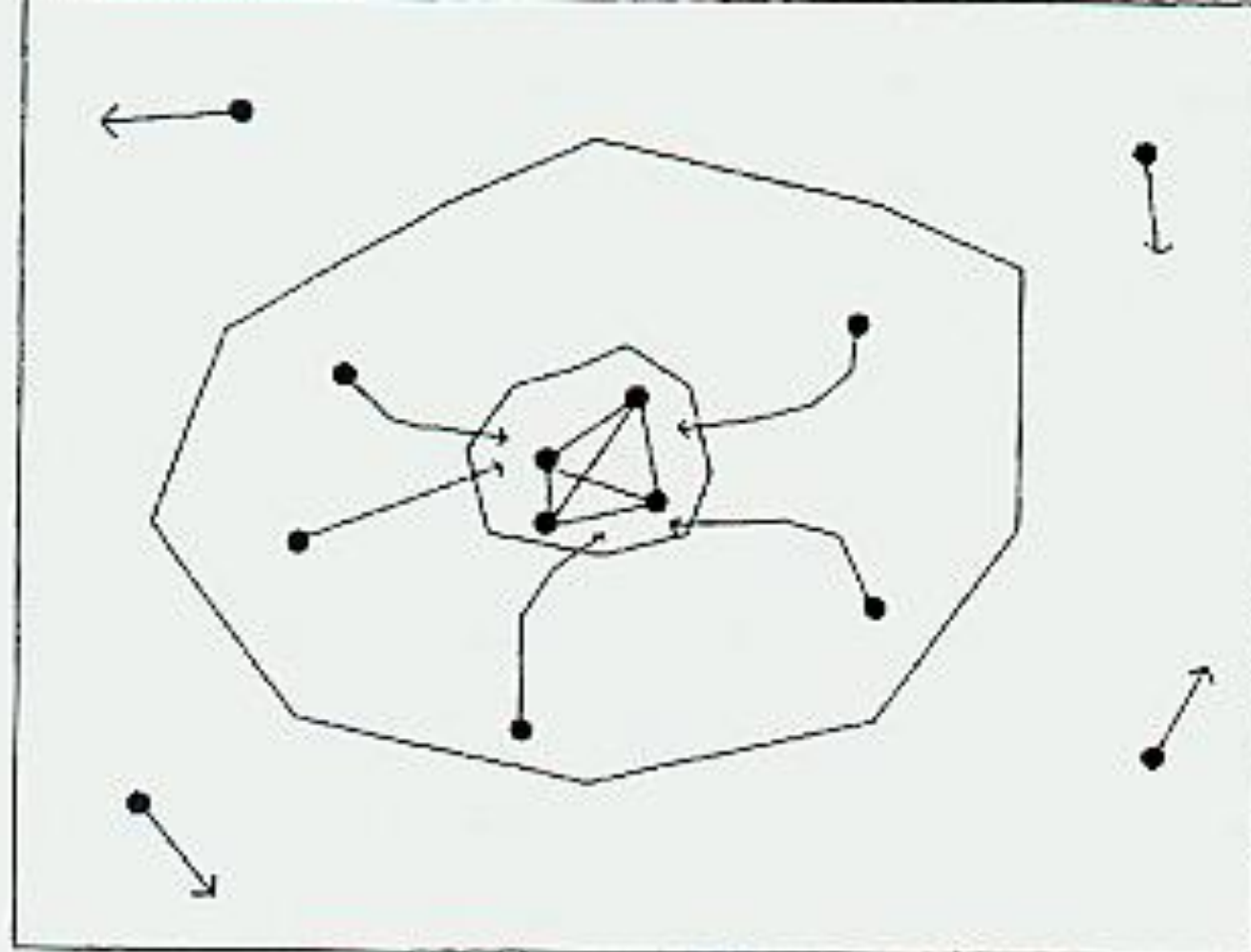
NOT FOR BROADCAST***

FOR MORE CONTACT
FORMSNOW.COM





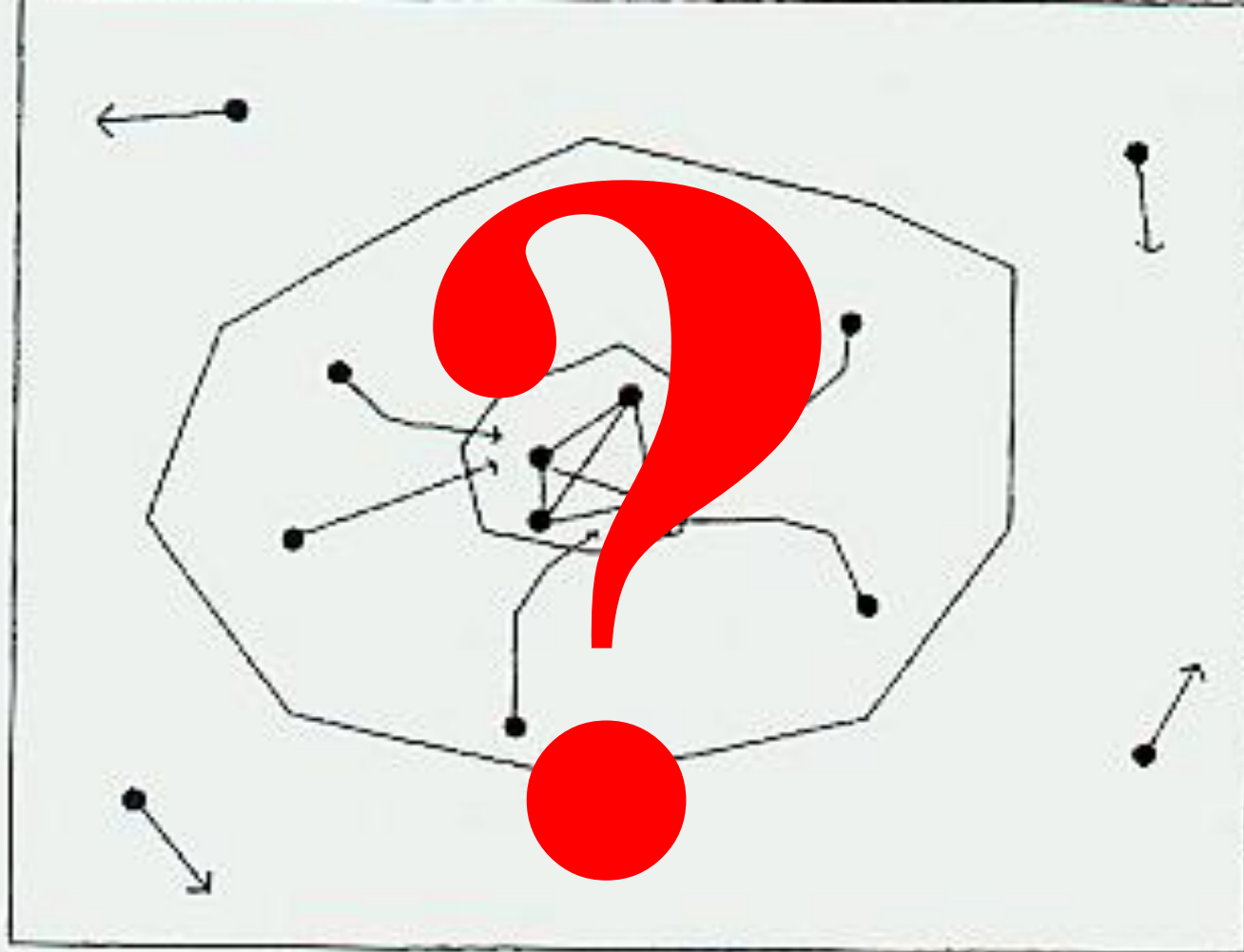
Ecosystem State Variable



Ecosystem State Variable

Figure 2 - Margalef's mapping of stability. Axes are state variable values. Area A is the region within which the variable values vary naturally. When stress results in displacements within area B, the system can return to the original state. With displacements outside of B the system seeks new stable points. (after Margalef 1969)

Ecosystem State Variable

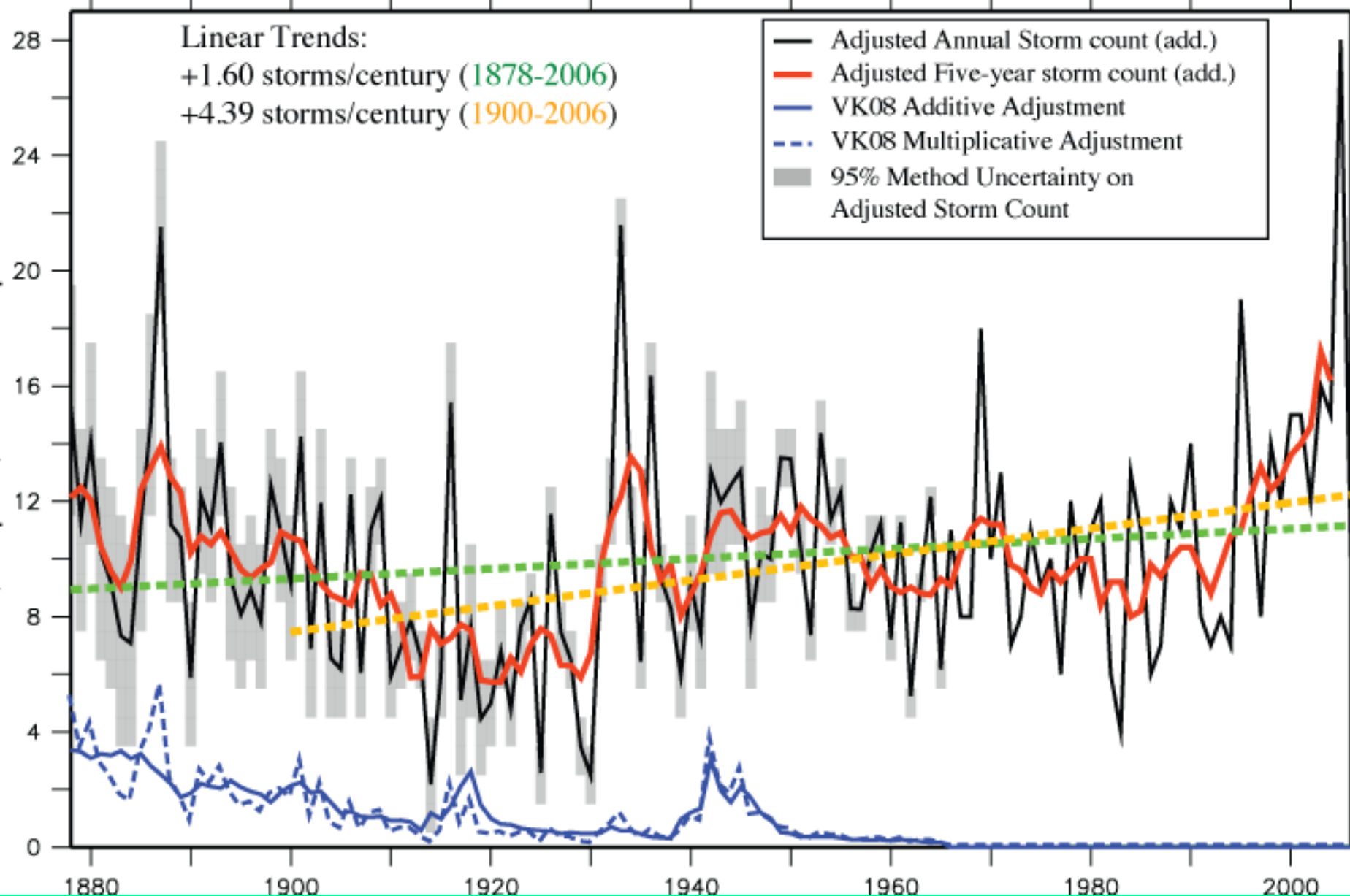


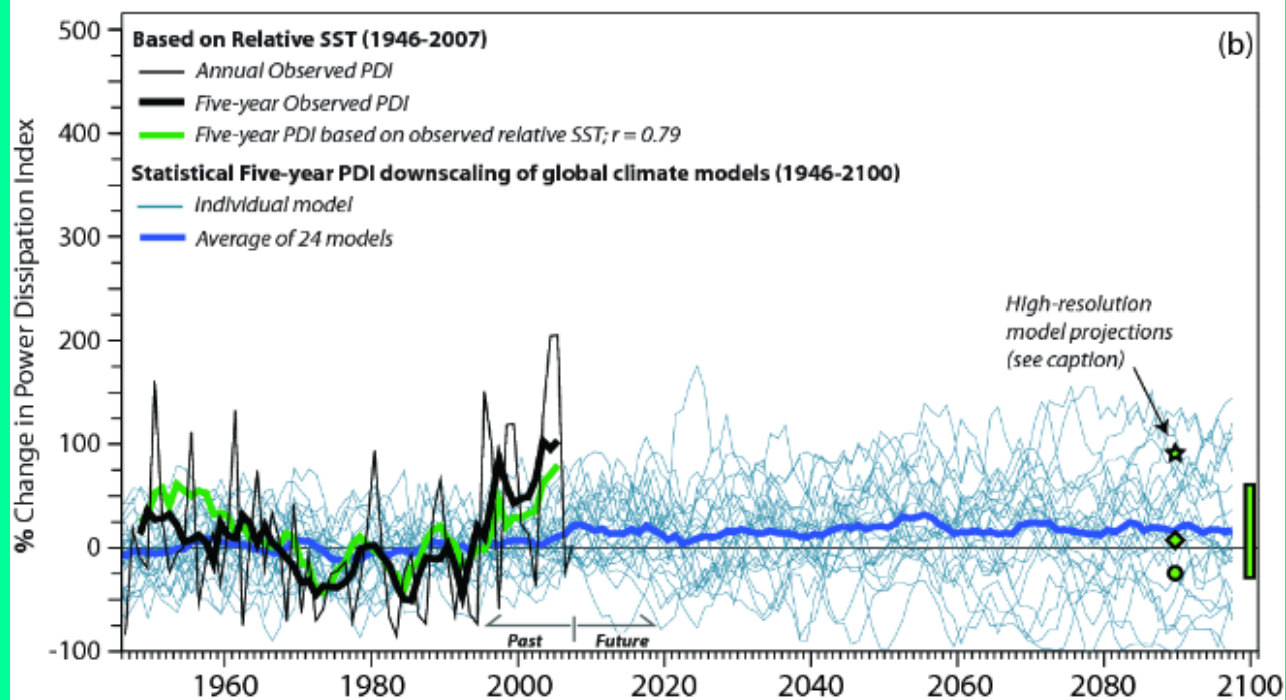
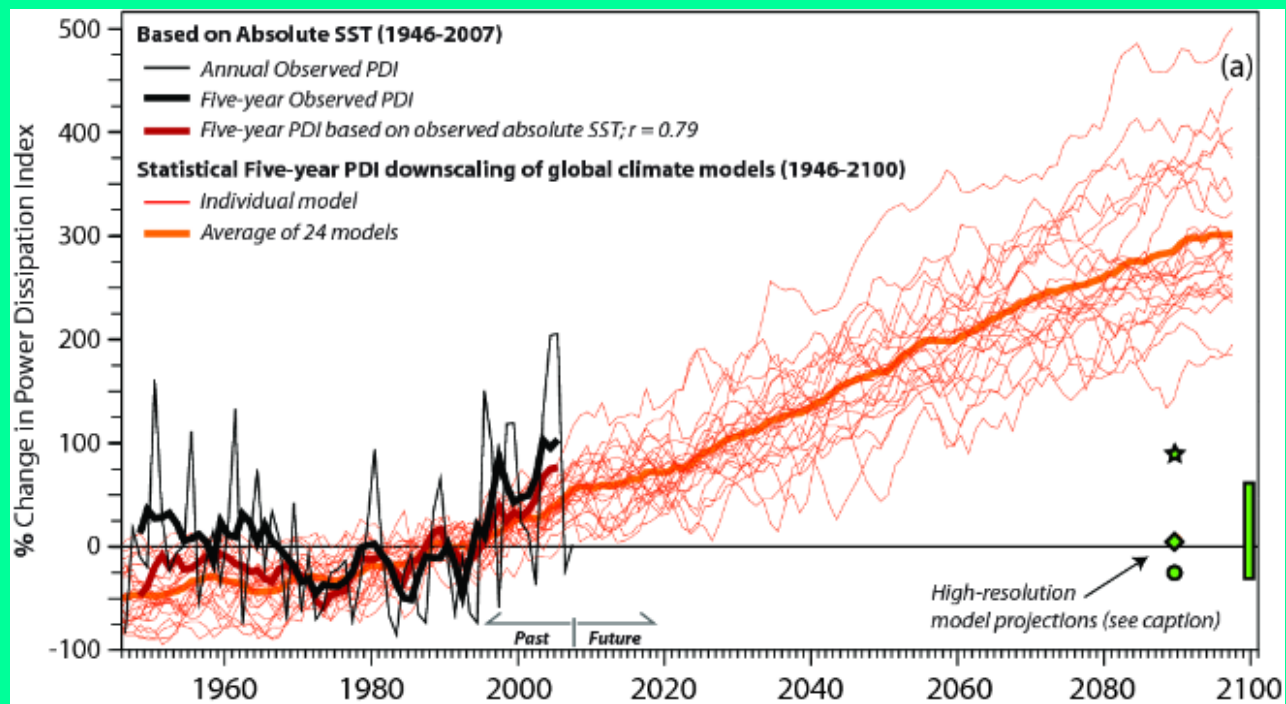
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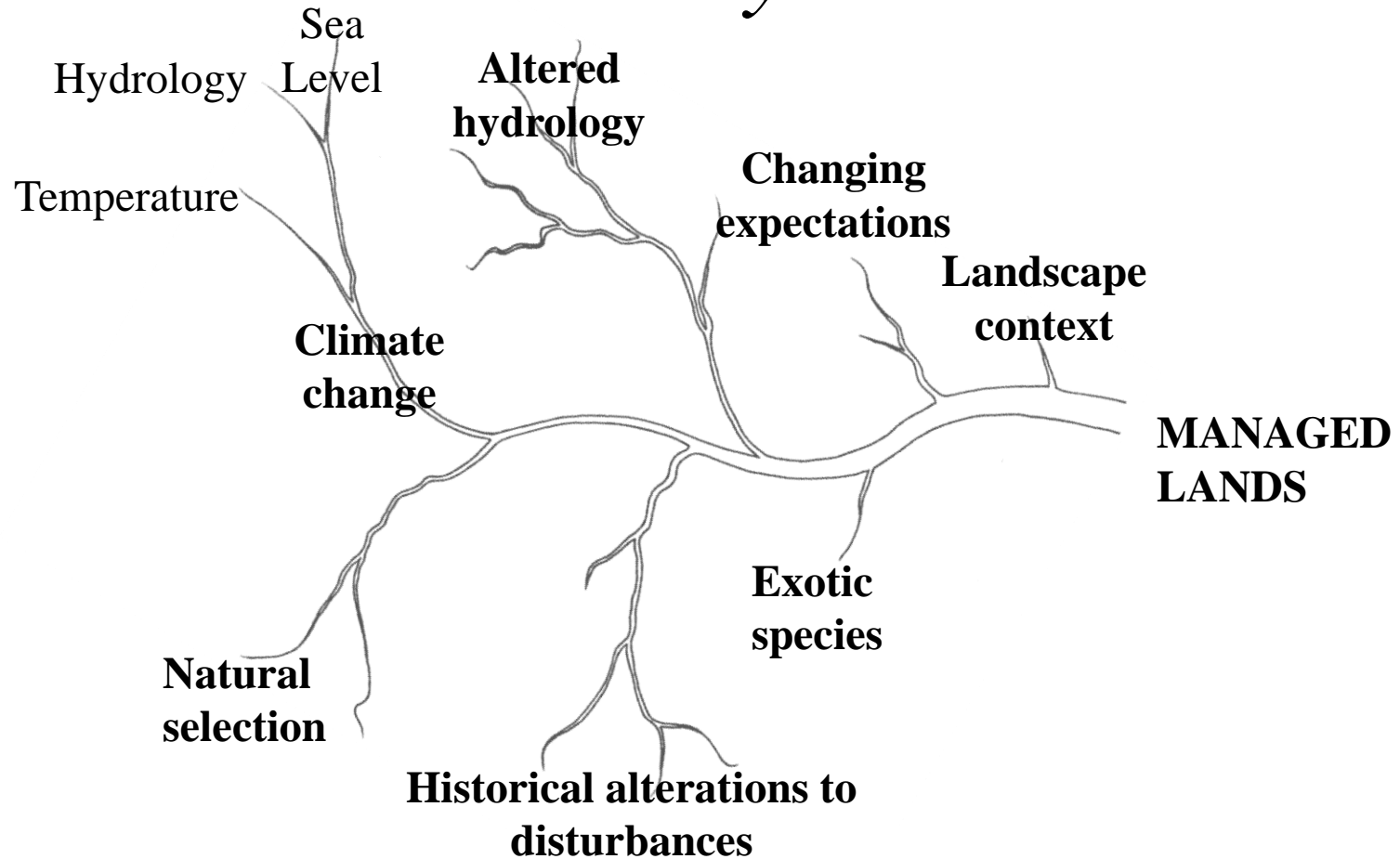
Atlantic HURDAT Storms (Adjusted for Estimated Missing Storms) 1878-2006

Hurricanes, Tropical, and Subtropical Storms





You could not step twice into the same river; for other waters are ever flowing on to you



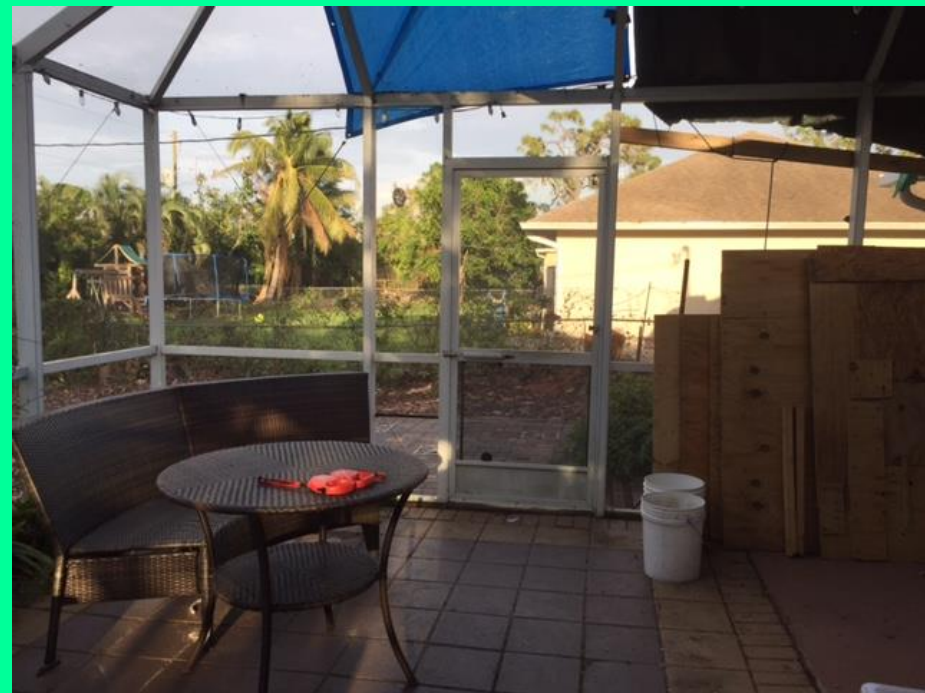
HURRICANE CHARLEY: SIX MONTHS LATER

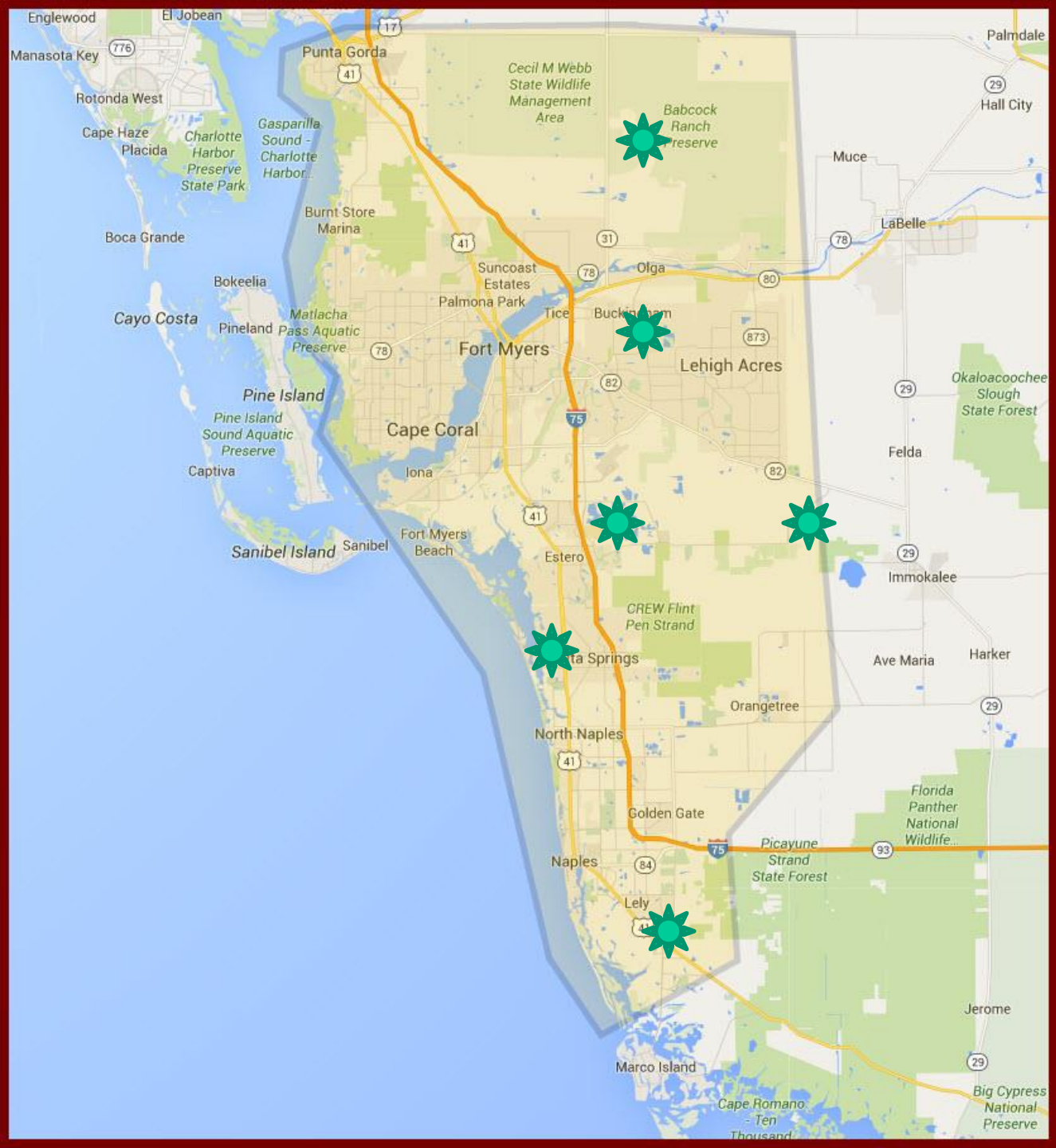
A land forever altered



ANDREW WEST/THE NEWS-PRESS

■ Clinton Comstock, a resident of Carl Avenue in Punta Gorda, removes Hurricane Charley debris from a pasture behind his home recently. Comstock, who has lived on the street for 25 years, lost his mobile home to the storm and is living in a camper while waiting for a new home. The barbed wire is a remnant of Florida Power & Light.





HERACLITUS OF EPHESUS – C. 535 – C. 475 BC

"πάντα χωρεῖ καὶ οὐδὲν μένει" καὶ "δις ἐς τὸν αὐτὸν ποταμὸν οὐκ ἂν ἐμβαίης"
Plato's *Cratylus*

- *No man ever steps in the same river twice*
- *You could not step twice into the same river; for other waters are ever flowing on to you.*
- *All entities move and nothing remains still"*
- *Nothing is permanent except change*

Pascal's Wager



Believe

Do not believe

God exists

--	--

God does
not exist

--	--

Pascal's Wager



	Believe	Do not believe
God exists	Heaven	
God does not exist		No loss or gain

Pascal's Wager



Believe

Do not believe

God exists

Heaven

Hell

God does
not exist

No loss or
gain

Pascal's Wager



Believe

Do not believe

God exists

Heaven

Hell

God does
not exist

Live a good
life

No loss or
gain

Everham's Wager

Believe

Do not believe

Global
warming exists

--	--

Global
warming
does not exist

--	--

Everham's Wager

Believe

Do not believe

Global
warming exists

Best decision

Global
warming
does not exist

No loss or
gain

Everham's Wager

Believe

Do not believe

Global
warming exists

Best decision

Hell on earth

Global
warming
does not exist

No loss or
gain

Everham's Wager

Believe

Do not believe

Global
warming exists

Best decision

Hell on earth

Global
warming
does not exist

sustainable life

No loss or
gain